

emperor by the pope. The pretext for his coronation was his refusal to recognize IRENE as Empress of the East. In 812 Charles ceded Venice and DALMATIA to the Byzantine emperor, MICHAEL I, who then recognized his imperial dignity. The end of Charles' reign was troubled by raids of NORSE and DANISH pirates and Charles took vigorous measures for the construction of a fleet, which his successors neglected. His land frontiers he had already protected by the creation of marches.

B. D.
742 - 814

CHARLEMAGNE

CHARLES THE GREAT - CHARLES I

800-814 Emperor of the West.

Frankish king (768-814). Elder son of PIPPIN THE SHORT and a grandson of CHARLES MARTEL, he shared with his brother CARLOMAN in the succession to his father's kingdom. At CARLOMAN's death (771), young Charles was proclaimed sole king of the Franks. When war broke out between DESIDERIUS, king of the Lombards, who had been persuaded to support the claims of CARLOMAN's two sons, and

Pope ADRIAN I, who had refused support, Charles intervened (773) on the side of the pope. At Rome he was received by ADRIAN as patrician of the Romans. (a title he had received with his father in 754). and he confirmed his father's donation to the Holy See. Shortly afterward he took PAVIA and assumed the iron crown of the Lombard kings. In 778 he invaded Spain; he was repulsed by the Moors at SARAGOSSA but kept NAVARRE and the "SPANISH MARCH," including PAMPLONA & BARCELONA. Charles's struggle with the pagan Saxons whose greatest leader was WIDKIND, lasted from 772 till 804. By dint of forced conversions, wholesale massacres, and the transportation of thousands of Saxons to the interior of the Frankish kingdom, Charles made his domination over SAXONY complete. He also waged successfully against the AVARS & the SLAVS, advancing as far east as POMERANIA. Meanwhile the new pope, LEO III, was threatened with deposition by the Romans and in 799 appealed to Charles. Charles hastened to Rome to support LEO III, and on Christmas Day, 800, was crowned

were the numerous schools for children of all classes established throughout the empire during Charles's reign. The preservation of classical literature was due almost entirely to his initiative. Prominent figures of the CAROLINGIAN renaissance other than ALCUIN included PAUL the DEACON, EINHARD, and PETER of PISA. Charlemagne himself, though scarcely considered educated by later standards, showed great taste for learning and store for purity in his Latin. In his daily life, he effected

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In his government he continued and systematized the administrative machinery of his predecessors. He permitted conquered peoples to retain their own laws, which he codified when possible, and he issued many CAPITULARIES (gathered in the MONUMENTA GERMANICAE HISTORICA). A noteworthy achievement was the creation of a system by which he might personally supervise his administration in even the most distant lands; his MISSI DOMINICI were personal representatives with wide powers who regularly inspected their assigned

districts. He maintained contact with the lesser magnates through annual consultative assemblies. He tried to help the poorer freemen by reducing their military obligations and by removing their obligation to attend county assemblies. He strove to educate the clergy and exercised more direct control over the appointment of bishops. Like the Byzantine emperors, he acted as arbiter in theological disputes by summoning councils, notably that at Frankfurt (794), where ADOPTIONISM was rejected and the decrees of the Second Council of Nicaea were condemned. He stimulated foreign trade and entertained friendly relations with England and with HARUN al-RASHID. In 813 Charlemagne designated his son LOUIS I as imperial co-emperor and successor and crowned him at AACHEN, thus founding the CAROLINGIAN dynasty of emperors. Charlemagne's court at AACHEN was the center of remarkable intellectual quickening. The palace school, under the leadership of ALCUIN, became particularly famous, but of greater significance

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the simple manners of his Frankish forbears, wore Frankish clothes, and led a frugal existence, except for his habit of keeping several wives and concubines. He was beatified after his death and in some churches has been honored as a saint. His physical appearance probably differed vastly from the bearded and patriarchal figure of the legend. Indeed, Charlemagne's actual achievements and prestige were of such magnitude that later generations

enlarged them to fantastic proportions. Surrounded by his legendary 12 peers, he became the central figure of a cycle of romance. At first legend pictured him as the champion of Christendom; later he appeared as a vacillating old man, almost a comic figure. His characterization in the CHANSON de ROLAND has impressed itself indelibly on the imagination of the Western world. The vogue of the Charlemagne epic ebbed somewhat after the Renaissance, but was revived again in the 19th cent., by VICTOR HUGO and other members of the Romantic school. Charlemagne's creation (or recreation) of an empire was the basis of the theory of the HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE; it was his example that NAPOLEON I had in mind when he tried to assume his succession in 1804.

At the most, the assemblies could only bring upon him the force of public opinion.

Attention has been called to Charlemagne's interest in learning. The difficulties in building up a better education were almost beyond our comprehension. There seemed no place to begin - Not only the nobles, but even many of the better clergy were densely ignorant. The only tools to work with were poor.

Charlemagne did much. He secured more learned men for the clergy. He brought about the opening of schools in many of the monasteries and at the seats of some of the bishops; and he urged that these schools should not only train the clergy but that they should teach all children to read, even those of serfs.

Some of the schools established or revived at this time, as at TOURS and ORLEANS, acquired much fame. For teachers, learned men were brought from Italy, where the ~~teachers~~ Roman culture best survived.

Charlemagne also established a famous "School of the Palace" for the young nobles of the court; and the scholar ALCUIN was induced to come from England to direct it. The emperor himself.

when time permitted studied at the tasks of the boy.

With great zeal, too, he strove to secure a true copying of valuable manuscripts, and especially a correction of errors that had crept into the services of the church through careless copying.

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Kingdom, Charlemagne made use of the old Teutonic assemblies in fall and spring. All freemen could attend and speak. Sometimes, especially when war was to be decided upon, this "MAYFIELD" gathering comprised the bulk of the men of the Frankish nation. At other times it was made up only of the great nobles and churchmen.

To these assemblies the CAPITULARIES were read, but the assembly was not itself a legislative. Lawmaking was in the hands of the

ans. To oppose this tendency directly in times was hardly possible. So, to keep the counts in order, Charlemagne introduced a new set of officers known as *missi dominici* ("king's messengers"). The empire was divided into districts, each containing the governments of several counts, and to each such district each year there was sent a pair of these commissioners, to examine the administration and to act, for the year, as the king's self, - overseeing the work of local counts, correcting injustice, holding popular assemblies, and reporting all to the king. The commissioners were moved from one circuit to another, year after year, so that they should not establish too intimate relations with one set of counts. Usually, too, the pair of *missi* were made up of one layman and one bishop, so that the two might be the more ready to check each other.

(c) This simple worked wonderfully well in Charlemagne's lifetime, largely because of his own marvelous activity. Despite the terrible conditions of the roads, and the other hardships of travel in those times, the king was

constantly on the move, journeying from end to end of his vast dominions and attending unwearyingly to its wants. No commercial traveler of to-day travels more faithfully, and none dreams of meeting such hardships.

(d) With the help of his chief advisers, the king drew up conditions of laws to suit the needs of his people. These collections are known as
CAPITULARIES

(e) MAY FIELDS. To keep in closer touch with popular feeling in all parts of the

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officers was very great. On the frontiers, to watch the outside barbarians, the imperial officers were given large territories ("marks") and were known as margraves. To the counts and margraves was intrusted all ordinary business of government for their districts. They maintained order, administered justice, levied troops and in all ways represented the king to the people.

(b.) Like the old dukes, the counts tended to become identified with their localities as independent rulers, and to transmit their power

at the revenues of Charlemagne himself. powerful as he was, he was always pinched for money. There were no taxes, as we understand the word, - partly because there was no money to pay them with, and little produce. Paymaster was made by service in person. The common freeman paid by serving in the ranks in war; the nobles paid by serving there, and with their followers, and also by serving, without salary, as officers in the administration. The treasury received some fees, and it was enriched somewhat by the "gifts" which were expected from the wealthy men of the realm; but its chief support came from the produce of the royal farms scattered through the kingdom. Charlemagne took the most minute care that these lands should be well tilled, and that each should pay him every egg and vegetable due. For the management of his estates he drew up regulations, from which we learn much about the condition of the time.

Five features of the government deserve attention, - the administration by COUNTS; the watchdog of the counts by the MISSI DOMINICI; the king's own

marvellous activity; the issuing of capitularies; and MAYFIELDS.

(2) Under the Merovingians, large fragments of the kingdom fell under the rule of the dukes, who became almost independent sovereigns and who usually passed on their authority to their sons. PIPPIN began to replace these hereditary dukes with appointed counts, more closely dependent upon the royal will. This practice was extended by Charlemagne.

Except on the frontier, no one count was given a large district; therefore the number of these

AFTER 800

SOCIETY AND GOVERNMENT

We must not think that the glory and prosperity of the old Empire had been restored. To accomplish that was to be the work of centuries more. In 800 A.D., the West was ignorant and poor. There was much barbarism in the most civilized society. Roads had fallen into neglect, and there was little communication between one district and another. Money was little heard of. Trade hardly existed. Almost the only industry was a primitive kind of agriculture.

Perhaps this condition is best realized

idea to which he had given new up-
and new meaning was to be for ages the
inspiration of the best minds as they strove
against the forces of anarchy in behalf of
order, peace, and progress.

For his lifetime, Charlemagne restored order
to Europe. It is true he was ahead of his age;
and, after his death, his great designs in many
respects broke to pieces. It is true, too, that he
built upon the work of his father and grandfather.
But he towers above them, and above all other
men from the 5th to the 15th Century, —
easily the greatest figure in 1000 years.
He stands for 5 great movements. He
expanded the area of civilization, created one
great Teutonic state, revived the Roman Empire
in the West for the outward form of this
state, reorganized the church and civil
society, and brought about a revival of
learning. Looking at this work as a whole,
of ~~human~~ we may say he wrought wisely
to combine the best elements of Roman
and of Teutonic society into a new

civilization. In his Empire the various streams of influence that we have traced in Ancient History were at last fused in one great current, - and Modern History was begun.

800 - 814

CHARLEMAINE IN HISTORY

In the early part of the eighth century there were four great powers contending for Western Europe, - the Greek Empire, the Saracens, the Franks, and the Papacy. By the year 800, the Carolingians had excluded two and had fused the other two into the revived Roman Empire.

For centuries more, this Roman Empire was to be one of the most important institutions in Europe, but anarchy and anarchy were again to break in, after the death of the great Charles; but the empire

coronation of Charles. In later times this was to be expressed in the name, THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE. The Empire had its spiritual as well as its temporal head. the limits of authority between the two were not well defined, and dissensions were afterward to arise between them. Thus at the close of Ancient History the world was divided among four great powers - two Christian Empires and two rival Mohammedan Caliphates. (The Caliph HAROUN al RASCHID at BAGDAD, the hero of the Arabian Nights was Charlemagne's contemporary. He sent Charles a white elephant and a curious water clock that struck the hours.)

900 - 1453 - 1806 CONTRAST - WESTERN & EASTERN EMPIRES
Neither Empire was really Roman. The Eastern grew more and more Oriental, until it ended in 1453 A.D., when the Turks captured Constantinople. The Western grew more & more Teutonic, until it ended in 1806, before which time its rulers had sunk into little more than dukes of Austria. Both Empires continued to stand for civilization against barbarism. The Eastern, however, was henceforth largely PASSIVE, and calls for little attention in European history; the ACTIVE forces for civilization were found in the West. The Eastern Empire

warded off from Europe invasions of Asiatic barbarism, and served as a storehouse of the old culture. The Western Empire learned from the Eastern some of its civilization, and extended Christianity and good order in Central Europe.

The new Western Empire, too, while one in theory with the old Empire of Augustus and Constantine, differed from it almost as widely as from the Byzantine Empire.

(a) The new Empire was European, and even Teutonic, rather than Mediterranean, both in area and character. Charlemagne and his successors had to be crowned in Rome; but the German Rhine, not the Italian Tiber, was the real center of their state. AACHEN, not Rome, was the real capital of the government. Greek and oriental influence were almost wholly excluded; and Roman ideas, as far as they remained, were worked out by rulers of Teutonic blood.

(b) The new Empire rose out of union of the Papacy and the Frankish power. This union began in the coronation and the donation of PIPPIN, and was confirmed by the Christ

This act of LEO III and Charles was not a partition of imperial duties, as between PROCLIAN and his colleague, nor a friendly division of territory as between ARCADIVS and HONORIUS. It was in theory the restoration of the seat of the one universal Empire to Rome. In fact, however, it created two rival empires, each calling itself the Roman Empire, and looking on the other as a usurpation. Men of that day spoke of Charlemagne as successor not of ROMULUS AUGUSTUS, but of CONSTANTINE II. In course of time, men had to recognize that there were two Empires, as there had come to be two branches of the Christian church.

800 AD.

CHARLEMAGNE - "ROMAN EMPIRE"

The state ruled by CLOVIS and by PIPPIN had been not so much a kingdom as an empire, in extent and character, comprising, as it did, many sub-states and diverse peoples. Charlemagne intensified this imperial character, and he ruled also over wide realms in north Italy which were not in the Frankish state at all. Now he was to strengthen his power by reviving the dignity and magic name of the Roman Empire. He knew that the mere "king of the Franks" could never

sway the minds of VISIGOTH, LOMBARO, BAVARIAN, SAXON, and especially of the Roman population they dwelt among, as could the "Emperor of the Romans" ruling from the old world-capital.

There was already a "Roman Emperor": of course, at Constantinople, whose authority, in theory, extended over all Christendom. Just at this time, however, IRENE, the empress-mother, put out the eyes of her son, CONSTANTINE VI, and seized the imperial power. To most minds, East and West, it seemed monstrous that a woman should pretend to sway the scepter of the world, and Charles decided to restore the throne to its ancient capital in the West.

On Christmas day, 800 A.D., Charlemagne was at Rome, whither he had been called once more to protect the pope from turbulent Italian enemies. During the Christmas service, while the king knelt in prayer, Pope LEO III placed upon his head a gold crown and saluted him as CHARLES AUGUSTUS, EMPEROR OF THE ROMANS. The act was ratified by the enthusiastic acclaim of the multitude. Once more Rome had chosen an IMPERATOR.

post-Christmas, but they are not.

	<u>Carolingia</u>	<u>Saxon</u>
Jan.	Wulf-month	Wulf-month when the hungry wolves come into the villages.
Feb.	Mud-month	Sprout-kale when the cabbages sprout.
Mar.	Spring-month	Easter-month of the goddess of fertility.
May	Joy-month	Thromlche when cows can be milked 3 times / day
June	Plough-month	Litha of arguable meaning.
July	Hay-month	Mead-month mead-month when meadows are in bloom.
Aug.	Harvest-month	Weed-month weed-month, or scere-month, shearing month.
Sept	Wind-month	Harvest-month

Oct.	^{Chalengian} Vinlage-month	^{Saxon} Winterfylleth, the full moon that marks the start of winter
Nov.	Autumn-month	Blod-month blood-month when the cattle are slaughtered.
Dec.	Holy-month	Heligh-month hly-month

800 AD

As for the month-names and day-names, they never were Christianized, except in the Eastern Church. It is odd that the twelve Apostles never gave their names to the months, as the seven planetary gods did to the days.

Charlemagne in the ninth century, gave new names to the months in this Frankish tongue. In this and in the Saxon calendar, the month-names are still seasonal. 'Eater-month' and 'Holy-month' might seem to be